

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/711,363
Amendment filed August 24, 2005
Reply to OA dated May 24, 2005

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1(a), 2, 3(a), and 3(b). These sheets, which include Figures 1(a), 2, 3(a), 3(b), and 4 replace the original sheets including Figures 1(a), 2, 3(a), 3(b), and 4. In Figures 1(a), 2, 3(a), and 3(b), reference numeral 52 has been added and corresponds to “contact resistance enlarging portion”.

REMARKS:

Claims 1-5 are currently being examined, none of which have been amended.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants' regard as the invention.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1-5 set forth a "contact resistance enlarging portion", and the Examiner has suggested that this portion is indefinite because the portion is not specifically identified in drawings.

In the paragraph [0006] of the specification, as amended, the following text appears: "The contact resistance enlarging portion (52) may be constituted by any one of grooves (30), mottled portions (31), dimple portions (32), and protrusions and depressions that are provided on the junction face (22)." Figures 1(a), 2, 3(a), and 3(b), as amended, show reference numeral 52. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1-5 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, and the Examiner has suggested that the drawings do not depict a contact resistance enlarging portion as recited in claims 1-5. Applicants respectfully

traverse this objection.

Figures 1(a), 2, 3(a) and 3(b), and paragraph [0006] of the specification have been amended to include reference numeral 52.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by USP 6,665,172 (**Kim**).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Kim fails to describe, teach, or suggest the following features set forth in claims 1 and 2: “contact resistance enlarging portion”, in combination with the other claimed features.

Furthermore, the subject application discloses that an anode lead frame (20) and an anode lead (16) are connected by resistance welding. On the contrary, in the **Kim** patent, an anode lead frame (30) and an anode wire (20) are connected by laser welding (column 5, lines 35-54). Therefore, there would be no need to provide “contact resistance enlarging portion” in the **Kim** patent.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, all claims currently pending are believed to be in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is respectfully requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Replacement Sheets of Drawings (Figs. 1(a), 1(b), 2, 3(a), 3(b), and 4)